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Wednesday, January 23, 1952

Colonel Haines and General Richards came to see me this morning in connection with military end item aid to France.

Margaret Biddle called and I had a long talk with her. She has been commissioned by "Réalités" to do twelve or more articles for it on such subjects as Political Federation in Europe, Situation in the Saar, etc.

Tom Wilson, the Information Chief of MSA France, came to see me. He is leaving his post shortly. He has performed well in it, and the circulation of their monthly paper "Rapport France-Etats-Unis" has now reached a million copies and been an extraordinary success.

Tomlinson and I had a lot of European Army matters to go over, then I had a sandwich in the office before attending the meeting of MSA Mission Chiefs at the Talleyrand. I talked to them about European integration,

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and especially about the army. There were a great many questions asked, and after two hours Tommy was still involved in explaining some of the financial features connected with the EDC.

I returned to the office to meet Maître Ponelle, the French lawyer for Thomas Fisher. We had a frank talk about his client's desire to buy the Delacroix studio. It seems to me that on the French side the people concerned with retaining this property as a museum and converting it permanently to that purpose, have acted [redacted] tactlessly. On the other hand, Mr. Fisher does not appear to have been sensitive about how much this shrine to Delacroix means to the French. One part of the case will shortly come up for trial, and if Maître Ponelle wins it, as he expects to, I shall then write to Fisher and ask him if he will not gracefully give way since his honor will have been satisfied.

Royall Tyler came to see me to report on his recent trip to the United States, and the plans of the National Committee for a Free Europe.

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At six o'clock I did a 6 1/2 minute broadcast in French for the Radio Diffusion Française.

We had a reception at the house to-night.

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